



106½ JUDGE JOHN AISO STREET #132, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 Telephone (213) 880-6875

The Little Tokyo Business Improvement District (TBID)

1st Quarter Report: January 1, 2017 – March 30, 2017

1st QUARTER ACTIVITIES

- 1) **Safety Patrol:** During the 1st quarter of 2017, Allied Universal Protection Services entered its fifth month of service to the Little Tokyo BID. Feedback from stakeholders thus far has been consistently positive with general visibility, quick response, and professionalism cited as strong points. CyCop, proprietary monitoring devices provided by Allied Universal, has proved to be valuable in dispatching safety ambassadors when requested by stakeholders. The District is continuing its two-man bicycle patrol in two 8-hour shifts (32 man hours per day/224 hours per week), from 9 a.m. to 12 midnight, seven days a week. With the expectation of over 12,000 visitors to Little Tokyo for the annual celebration of *Oshogatsu* (New Year's Day), two additional safety ambassadors were scheduled to help ensure the safety and wellbeing of all in attendance. Incident reports, including reports of aggressive panhandling and threatening behavior, are submitted immediately to the District co-chairs. One incident in mid-February resulted in the safety patrol thwarting a carjacking when a perpetrator jumped into a woman's car while she was driving near the corner of 1st and San Pedro Sts. LAPD was dispatched and the suspect was taken into custody. Safety ambassadors are trained to humanely encouraged transients to relocate when they are obstructing private property. When appropriate and warranted, BID patrol officers coordinate with Little Tokyo's dedicated LAPD foot patrol. The average number of calls to the safety ambassadors during the 1st Quarter is slightly more than 100 per month, an increase of about 10% over the previous quarter. With Metro's Regional Connector construction activities being conducted below-ground (referred to as "steady state"), there have been fewer street closures, thereby improving traffic flow. The District is continuing to work in cooperation and collaboration with the L.A. City Attorney's office and Neighborhood Prosecutor Kurt Knecht, who is assigned to Little Tokyo.
- 2) **Maintenance:** The Los Angeles Conservation Corps is continuing to provide maintenance services, including street cleanup, removal of debris from gutters, and tree trimming, throughout the District's 11-block area. L.A. Corps' 10 to 14-person crews also removed hazardous waste such as discarded hypodermic needles. Activities are outlined in monthly reports and submitted to the District co-chairs. For the 1st quarter, 95 bags (1,200 pounds) of trash were hauled away; approximately 92,700 linear feet were cleaned and swept, and 29 trees were trimmed. The District is also partnered with the nonprofit Little Tokyo Rotary Club, whose members participate in monthly cleanup of Frances Hashimoto Plaza and Azusa Street. The district issued reminders to stakeholders with regard to proper disposal of bulky items, large furniture and electronic equipment through managers and/or homeowners associations. In anticipation of the installation of six BigBelly trash cans by the City Public Works Department, the District consulted with stakeholders regarding which locations are preferred for new receptacles. Once the solar-powered, compacting BigBelly bins are installed, the L.A. Conservation Corps will be monitoring the units to remove the collected trash on a regular basis.
- 3) **Marketing:** The District began the 1st Quarter by co-sponsoring the *Oshogatsu* (New Year's Day celebration) on Jan. 1 and coordinated advertising and pre-event publicity with the *Los Angeles Downtown News*, Japanese language press, and social media. Preparation of a brochure and map is underway. When completed, the brochure will be distributed to hotels, airports, and other tourist venues during the upcoming 2nd Quarter 2017. The District maintains its website, www.visitlittletokyo.com, which announces Regional Connector construction updates and promotes public events at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, Japanese American National Museum, East West Players, Geffen Contemporary at MOCA, and local churches and temples. The District is continuing its collaboration in support of Go Little Tokyo, a



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program presented by Metro and the Community Arts Resources to promote local businesses. The District's 1st Quarterly newsletter featured a story on City Council passage of the Civic Center Master Plan, which features design elements allowing flow to Little Tokyo and El Pueblo. The District also sponsored a screening of a documentary film tracing the history of an orphanage that existed in the Little Tokyo area prior to and during World War II. The District was also among the co-sponsors of the Central City Police Boosters annual Safety Officer Appreciation Luncheon in March. Little Tokyo BID patrol captain Michael James was among the safety ambassadors honored during the event.

- 4) **Administration:** The Little Tokyo Business Association (aka Li'l Tokyo Businessmen's Association), the nonprofit corporation that manages the Little Tokyo BID, rented space at 123 Onizuka St., where safety patrol bicycles may be secured at the end of each shift. The District's 1st quarterly newsletter was distributed to stakeholders on March 4. A Little Tokyo BID General Meeting open to all stakeholders was held at the Japanese American Cultural and community Center on Wednesday, March 15. The agenda was distributed in advance through the electronic newsletter. District administrative duties continue to be handled by the co-chairs.

1st QUARTER FINANCIALS

Budget Category	Annual Budget	1st Qtr Amt Spent	Y-T-D Amt Spent	Projected 2nd Qtr Amt
Safety (82%)	235,336	63,276	63,276	50,000
Maintenance (6%)	17,220	3,066	3,066	4,000
Marketing (8.5%)	24,394	3,543	3,543	5,000
Administration (3.5%)	10,045	1,202	1,202	2,000
TOTAL	286,995	71,087	71,087	61,000

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ellen Endo".

Ellen Endo
Co-Chair, Little Tokyo Business Improvement District
President, Li'l Tokyo Businessmen's Association